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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Application of:

Masayuki ITAKURA

Application No.: 09/991,934

Filed: November 26, 2001

For: VIBRATION PROOF DAMPER FORMING METHOD AND DAMPER
INTEGRATION TYPE MECHANICAL CHASSIS

Attorney Docket No.: OHT-0001

Examiner: M. Burch

Art Unit: 3683

Confirmation No. 5436

RESPONSE TO ELECTION OF SPECIES REQUIREMENTCommissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria Virginia 22313-1450**RECEIVED**

DEC 10 2003

GROUP 3600

Sir:

In response to the Election of Species Requirement dated November 5, 2003, Applicants provisionally elect Species III, Figs. 4A-4C, 5A-5C and 6A-6C. It is respectfully submitted that claims 2-16, 18-22 and 24-26 read on the elected species. The foregoing election is made with traverse.

It is respectfully submitted that all three species are related in that they share the same features. In particular, all three species have a resin part of a mechanical chassis (i.e., the vibration preventing damper forming portion) is fixed to a resin portion of the damper housing (i.e., opening side end portion). In other words, all three species have a vibration preventing damper formed integrally with a chassis to form a unitary structure of the vibration preventing damper and the resin portion of the chassis.

Furthermore, it is respectfully submitted that the subject matter of all claims is sufficiently related that a thorough search of the subject matter of any one group of claims would necessarily encompass a search for the subject matter of the remaining claims. It is respectfully submitted that the claims have previously been examined twice. Thus, it is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application could be made without serious burden. See MPEP 803 which is stated that "if the search and examination of an entire application can be made without serious

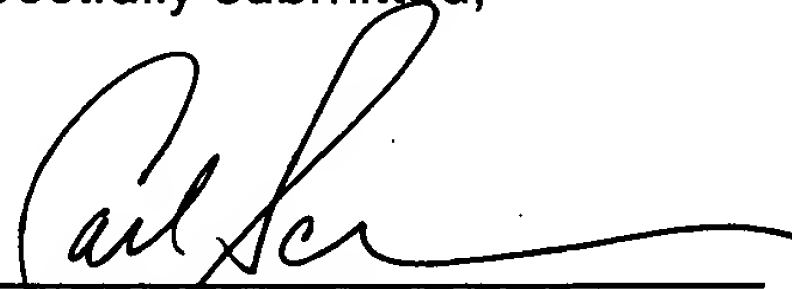
burden, the examiner must examine it on the merits, even though it includes claims that are distinct or independent inventions" (emphasis added).

It is respectfully submitted that this policy should apply to the present application in order to avoid unnecessary delay and expense to Applicants and the duplicative examination by the Patent Office.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 5, 2003

By:



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